

## Message Text

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60

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 INR-10 LAB-06

NSAE-00 RSC-01 SIL-01 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 L-03 NSC-10

PA-04 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 SAM-01 PER-05 DRC-01

AID-20 /141 W

----- 104777

R 201059Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7211

UNCLAS ABIDJAN 1300

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EFIN, IV

SUBJECT: INCREASE IN MINIMUM WAGE

1. ON FEBRUARY 15 COUNCIL OF MINISTERS ANNOUNCED THAT TO IMPROVE PURCHASING POWER OF SALARIED WORKERS THE GOVERNMENT WAS INCREASING THE MINIMUM WAGE (SMIG) BY 20 PERCENT IN THE INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL SECTORS RETROACTIVE TO FEBRUARY 1, 1974. PERSONNEL IN STATE COMPANIES ARE NOT AFFECTED BY THIS INCREASE.

2. COMMUNIQUE ALSO STRESSED THAT ALL PRICE INCREASES MUST HAVE PRIOR AUTHORIZATION OF THE GOVERNMENT AND INVITED THE POPULACE TO DENOUNCE TRADESMEN WHO INCREASE PRICES WITHOUT PRIOR AUTHORIZATION FROM RESPONSIBLE AUTHORITIES. FEBRUARY 11 COUNCIL OF MINISTERS COMMUNIQUE ANNOUNCED THAT ANY PRICE INCREASES WITHOUT PRIOR AUTHORIZATION COULD RESULT IN THE IMMEDIATE CLOSING OF THE ESTABLISHMENT CONCERNED. LATTER COMMUNIQUE NOTED THAT PRICE INCREASES RESULTING FROM ENERGY CRISIS WERE AUTHORIZED ONLY FOR FUEL, CEMENT, IRON BARS, PLASTIC MATERIAL AND ROASTED COFFEE; REGARDING TRANSPORT, STUDIES WERE UNDERWAY WITH A VIEW TO ESTABLISHING NEW RATES.

3. COMMENT THE GOIC IS MAKING CONCERTED EFFORT TO RESTRAIN PRICE INCREASES WITH A VIEW TO MODERATING WHAT FOR IVORY COAST HAS BEEN EXCESSIVE RATE OF INFLATION DURING PAST YEAR. IT WILL BE INTERESTING

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TO NOTE WHETHER GOVERNMENT AUTHORITIES WILL CRACK DOWN ON RETAILERS

AND WHOLESALERS WHO INCREASE PRICES WITHOUT GOVERNMENT AUTHORIZATION. WITH INCREASE IN SMIG AND, THEREFORE, PURCHASING POWER OF AN ESTIMATED 25 PERCENT OF LABOR FORCE, PRESSURE ON PRICES WILL BE EVEN STRONGER THAN AT PRESENT. THUS, GOVERNMENT EFFORTS TO MODERATE PRICE INCREASES WILL REQUIRE COMMENSURATELY MORE VIGOROUS APPLICATION OF PRICE CONTROLS AND PURSUIT OF VIOLATORS THEREOF THAN HAS BEEN EVIDENT IN THE PAST.

ROOT

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** INFLATION, IRON, COST OF LIVING WAGE ADJUSTMENT, MINIMUM WAGE, COMMERCE & INDUSTRY, PRICES, CEMENT, PRICE CONTROLS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 20 FEB 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1974ABIDJA01300  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** n/a  
**From:** ABIDJAN  
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**Office:** ACTION AF  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
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**Review Authority:** garlanwa  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 28 FEB 2002  
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**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** INCREASE IN MINIMUM WAGE  
**TAGS:** EFIN, ENRG, IV  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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